MAPLETON ITEM.
Extra.

Swope & Thompson, Editors & Proprietors.

Mapleton Depot, Pa., June 1, 1889.

Ruin! Devastation!

Work of the Floods!

Railroad and Telegraph Communication Cut Off!

Suffering Caused by the Freshet!

People in Need—A Demand for Provision.

The rains of Wednesday raised the waters to some extent but on Thursday evening rain commenced falling and continued to fall until about twelve o'clock last night. When people retired to rest last evening they little expected to be aroused at such unseasonable hours but the rains descended in such torrents that before they had ceased falling appeals were made for aid to escape from the rapidly rising waters. At 3 o'clock all that portion of the town north of the railroad was inundated and the waters were rising over the track. By 5 o'clock Main street was covered from Sherman to Chestnut street. About 7 o'clock they reached their greatest height and the greater part of the town was submerged. Several houses have been swept away but fortunately no lives have been lost in town so far as known.

The railroad tracks are torn up and a portion of the embankment west of the stone-arched railroad bridge is swept away. Telegraph and telephone communication is entirely destroyed. At 10 o'clock the waters are receding having fallen about 12 inches from 9 to 10 o'clock.

E. Robley's house and barn and three houses at the lock, north of town, occupied by five families have been carried away. Whether any of the occupants of these escaped or not, is mere conjecture, as they cannot be reached.

The losses will approximate $250,000, which is distributed as follows:

H. R. Gurd, superintendent of Mapleton Tannery, says: "I am unable to say exactly what our loss will be, but $200,000 will scarcely cover it.

Phillips & Son loses upward of $800.

J. G. Gillam loses $1,000 to $1,500.

B. O'Connor & Sons, $1,500 to $2,000.

A. J. Foster, about $700.

J. P. Wilson lost one dwelling, and his brick dwelling is yet covered with water. What his loss will be, cannot be determined, but will reach, at least, $1,500.

W. H. Fisher, dwelling house worth $350.

A. C. Fisher, all his household goods.

John Barkley, dwelling house and household goods. Loss $400.

John Clemens' house was thrown over but the damage cannot yet be estimated.

Kendig & Hostetter's heading mill is supposed to be almost entirely destroyed. The sheds and stock are entirely swept away.

Mrs. M. J. Hooper's dwelling house is swept from the foundation.

One of M. L. Rex's new houses was swept from its foundation.

The Lock house east of town, occupied by Joel Hoover, was washed away with all its contents. The family escaped.

In addition to the losses above enumerated almost every property south of Chestnut and Grant streets is damaged to some extent. The property holders north of the railroad suffer damages which we will give as near as possible in our next issue. The loss to the railroad company between Bridgeport and Jackstown will approximate $200,000. All the county bridges on the Juniata and Raystown branch, so far as can be heard from are gone.

The iron aqueduct east of town was taken away about 12 o'clock last night.

There were about 35 feet of flush water in the river, and the flood exceeds the high water mark of 1847 by about eight feet.

What is Mapleton to do for provisions? The supply by rail is cut off and only the farmers of Union, Cass and Tod townships can be appealed to for aid. There is much need of provisions and there is no other source of supply.

We appeal to these people to render such aid as may be in their power. Our merchants are disposed to pay good prices for marketable produce but donations for the needy are solicited. A committee will be appointed to judiciously distribute whatever may be placed at their disposal.